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STATISTICAL SUMMARY

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Highlights of January Crop Production Report

Corn stocks on farms January 1, 1965, estimated at 2.8 billion bushels, were 14 percent lower than a year earlier and 5 percent below the 1959-63 average.

Wheat stocks on farms, placed at 390 million bushels, were 26 percent above a year earlier and 4 percent more than average.

Oats stocks on farms, estimated at 624 million bushels, were down 9 percent from January 1, 1964 and 18 percent from average.

Soybean farm stocks, estimated at 191 million bushels, were 27 percent below a year earlier and 10 percent below average.

Sorghum grain stocks on farms totaled 155 million bushels, 19 percent below January 1, 1964 and 15 percent under average.

Barley farm stocks totaled 190 million bushels, down 6 percent from 1964 and 8 percent less than average.

Flaxseed stocks on farms, estimated at 8.6 million bushels, were 18 percent less than a year earlier and 13 percent below average.

Hay on farms totaled 77 million tons, 5 percent less than a year earlier and 7 percent less than average.

Citrus production is expected to be up 17 percent from last year's crop. The 1964-65 orange crop is expected to total 113 million boxes, 22 percent more than the 1963-64 crop but 8 percent below average. The grapefruit crop, at 40 million boxes, is 18 percent above last year but 2 percent below average.

Generally Favorable December Ends 1964

December weather brought welcome moisture to the Eastern half of the Nation, but interfered with the wind-up of the 1964 crop harvest, according to the Crop Reporting Board. Blizzard conditions in the Northern Plains and extreme flooding in parts of the Pacific Northwest marred the generally favorable weather picture for the month. Central and Southern Plains States received limited precipitation and fall seeded grain prospects remain doubtful in some areas. Heavy feeding of livestock was required, especially in the Northern Plains and Mountain States, where snow cover kept cattle off ranges.

Hay Stocks 5 Percent Less Than January 1964

January 1 farm stocks of hay are estimated to be 77.5 million tons, down 5 percent from a year earlier and 7 percent less than average. The feeding season started with hay supplies 2 percent smaller than the previous year because of lower May 1 carryover of old hay--1964 production was about the same as in 1963. The disappearance of 58.5 million tons of hay from May 1, 1964 to January 1, 1965 was above both last year and the average, mainly because of increased supplemental hay feeding in the Northern range and North Atlantic areas where dry fall weather stunted forage growth. December storms in the Northern range country further increased extra hay needs in that area.

In the South Atlantic and South Central regions hay stocks were above a year earlier as a result of increased feeding season supplies--hay fed out

Prices of Farm Products

Commodity	Average Prices received by farmers		Effective Parity Prices Based on Data for Dec. 1964
	Nov. 1964	Dec. 1964	
Basic commodities:			
Cotton, Amer. upland (1b) Ct.	30.12	29.30	40.75
Wheat (bu.).....dol.	1.39	1.39	2.52
Rice (100 lb.).....dol.	4.98	5.01	6.35
Corn (bu.).....dol.	1.04	1.14	1.56
Peanuts (lb.).....ct.	11.4	11.4	14.1
Designated nonbasic commodities:			
Milkfat in cream (lb.).....ct.	59.6	59.6	77.6
Milk, wholesale (100 lb.).....dol.	4.54	1 4.47	5.38
Wool (lb.).....ct.	2 50.6	2 49.0	79.5
Other nonbasic commodities:			
Barley (bu.).....dol.	.961	.970	1.23
Cottonseed (ton)dol.	47.70	48.60	62.90
Flaxseed (bu.).....dol.	2.93	2.90	3.82
Hay, baled (ton).....dol.	23.50	24.40	26.90
Oats (bu.).....dol.	.625	.641	.842
Potatoes (cwt.).....dol.	2.67	3.40	2.36
Rye (bu.).....dol.	1.02	.974	1.38
Sorghum, grain (100 lb.).....dol.	1.88	1.93	2.44
Soybeans (bu.).....dol.	2.57	2.71	3.03
Sweetpotatoes (cwt.).....dol.	4.66	5.81	5.73
Oranges, on tree (box).....dol.	3.20	2.97	3.29
Apples, for fresh use (bu.).....dol.	2.36	2.45	3.09
Beef cattle (100 lb.).....dol.	17.70	17.40	24.70
Calves (100 lb.).....dol.	19.40	19.10	28.00
Hogs (100 lb.).....dol.	13.90	14.70	21.70
Lambs (100 lb.).....dol.	19.20	19.10	24.70
Chickens, all (lb.).....ct.	13.5	13.1	22.6
Eggs (dozen).....ct.	34.0	32.9	47.0

¹ Preliminary

² Does not include incentive payment

since May was about the same as the year before. Hay stocks in the North Atlantic area are well below January 1, 1964 as beginning supplies were down and feeding rates up from the previous year. Stocks in the North Central region were down 6 percent from a year earlier as a result of decreased carryover of old hay last May 1. Production in 1964 was down some but hay disappearance has also been a little less than in the previous year. Western region hay supplies for this feeding season were down and fall feeding rates up from last year, putting January 1 stocks down 8 percent from a year earlier and a little below average.

Statistical Series of Interest to Agriculture

Item	1963		1964		
	Dec.	Year	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Nonfarm employment, (civilian) ¹ ..	Mil. 64,6	Mil. 63,9	Mil. 66,0	Mil. 66,2	Mil. 66,6
Farm employment	4,8	6,5	7,1	5,2	4,4
Family	4,0	4,7	5,1	4,0	3,6
Hired8	1,8	2,0	1,2	.8
Index numbers (1957-59 = 100)					
Industrial production ²	127	124	131	135	137
Total personal income payments ³ ..	131	127	137	138	138
Weekly factory earnings ⁴	122	118	125	130	131
Average earnings of factory workers, per worker ⁴	122	118	122	124	127
Wholesale prices, all commodities ⁴	100	100	101	101	101
Farm commodities	93	96	94	94	93
Food, processed.....	100	101	102	101	101
Consumer price index ⁴	108	107	108	109	--
Food.....	105	105	107	105	--
Index numbers (1910-14 = 100)					
Prices received by farmers	237	242	236	234	234
Crops.....	241	237	232	232	234
Food grains.....	226	224	166	168	168
Feed grains and hay.....	164	164	165	161	171
Cotton.....	264	271	261	254	247
Tobacco.....	478	494	493	491	496
Oil bearing crops	265	258	260	263	273
Fruit.....	303	279	317	277	267
Commercial vegetables	254	231	222	265	249
Livestock and products.....	234	245	239	236	234
Meat animals.....	260	290	268	260	261
Dairy products.....	269	253	272	277	272
Poultry and eggs	146	146	144	143	139
Prices paid by farmers					
All commodities.....	282	283	282	282	283
Used in living	298	298	300	301	301
Used in production.....	270	273	269	269	269
Commodities, interest, taxes, and wage rates (parity index) ..	311	311	312	313	313
Farm wage rates, seasonally adjusted	681	677	694	694	694
Parity ratio (prices received to parity index)	76	78	76	75	75

¹ Bureau of the Census. ² Federal Reserve Board. ³ Department of Commerce. ⁴ Bureau of Labor Statistics - any figures not available at press time omitted.

Winter Potato Forecast Up--Spring Planting Higher Than 1964

Winter potato production is forecast at 3,730,000 hundredweight, 1 percent above 1964 but 8 percent below average. The increase over 1964 is caused by a 32 percent larger crop in Florida--more than offsetting a 14 percent reduction in California. The acreage planted in Florida was much above that indicated earlier. Harvest is underway in the Everglades area and will start in late January in the Ft. Myers-Immokalee section. Dade County red potatoes are in good condition but white potato stands are below normal for the State. Red varieties account for about three-fourths of the acreage in Florida. In California, harvest is general in the San Joaquin Valley but continues slow in Riverside County. Quality has been good.

Growers intend to plant 114,600 acres of potatoes for late spring harvest, 18 percent more than 1964 but the same as 1963. The sharpest increase--39 percent--is in California. It is the leading late spring State and intended plantings total 51,000 acres. Increases are also indicated for Arizona, Arkansas, Louisiana, the Baldwin area of Alabama, and northeast North Carolina. Planting in California started in the Edison area during late November and in other Kern County areas during December with other districts to start soon. Planting started in Arizona and Louisiana during December.

Livestock and Livestock Products

Item	Unit	Jan.-Nov. 1963	Jan.-Nov. 1964
Dairy Production			
Milk.....	Bil. lb.	¹ 124,8	¹ 126,0
Evaporated whole milk	Mil. lb.	1,763,4	1,760,1
Dry Nonfat milk solids (for human food)	Mil. lb.	1,938,2	1,978,2
Butter, creamery	Mil. lb.	1,308,5	1,314,8
Cheese, American	Mil. lb.	1,031,4	1,076,9
Ice Cream.....	Mil. gal.	671,1	683,2
Poultry Production			
Eggs.....	Billions	¹ 63,2	¹ 64,6
Federally inspected slaughter ²			
Chickens.....	Mil. lb.	4,607,9	4,822,8
Turkeys.....	Mil. lb.	1,021,6	1,110,2
Poultry used for other processing.....	Mil. lb.	530,6	572,7
Liquid egg.....	Mil. lb.	559,6	623,7
Dried egg (egg solids)	Mil. lb.	42,7	49,4
Frozen egg.....	Mil. lb.	346,8	361,5
Meat Production (dressed weight) ³			
Beef.....	Mil. lb.	14,733	16,459
Veal.....	Mil. lb.	780	843
Pork.....	Mil. lb.	10,733	10,887
Lamb and mutton.....	Mil. lb.	697	645
Total red meat.....	Mil. lb.	26,943	28,834

¹ January-December.

² Ready-to-cook.

³ Commercial: excludes farm slaughter.

Growers are expected to start planting in Texas in January and in the Baldwin area of Alabama in early February with other States to follow.

Milk and Egg Production Set Record Highs

Milk production in the United States during December is estimated at 9,970 million pounds, 3 percent above a year earlier and 1 percent above the previous record high for the month set in 1961. On a daily basis, milk production increased 3 percent from November to December compared with a seasonal gain of 2 percent in 1963. Preliminary monthly estimates of milk production total 126,000 million pounds for 1964, 1 percent more than the 1963 total and about the same as the record high 1962 production.

Egg production in the United States during December totaled 5,433 million eggs, 2 percent more than December 1963 and 3 percent more than the 1958-62 average. Rate of lay was 2 percent above a year earlier and a record high for the month. Layer numbers during December were about the same as a year earlier. Total egg production for 1964, at 64,609 million eggs, was 2 percent above 1963. Rate of lay per 100 layers for the Nation was the highest on record for January 1 and was up sharply in all regions except the Western States. Unusually mild December temperatures were the main stimulus toward higher output per layer.

Citrus Trees In Good Growth and Condition

In Florida, rain and warm temperatures during December maintained trees in good condition. Favorable weather stimulated tree growth and scattered bloom is appearing. Maturity of early oranges is well advanced. Quality is much better than last year. Splitting and droppage in Valencia oranges is prevalent; however, fruit shedding is expected to decline the remainder of the season because much of the fruit that would normally drop later in the season was shed during December.

Farm-Retail Price Spreads

Farm-Retail Spread and Farmer's Share of the Consumer's Dollar for Market Basket of Farm-Food Products

Year and Month	Retail Cost ¹	Farm Value ²	Farm-Retail Spread	Farmer's Share
1963 average	\$1,013	\$374	\$639	37%
1964 September	1,028	388	640	38%
1964 October	1,022	381	641	37%
1964 November	1,022	379	643	37%

¹Retail cost of average quantities purchased per household in 1960-61 by urban wage-earner and clerical-worker families and single workers living alone, calculated from retail prices collected by the Bur. Labor Statistics.

²Payment to farmers for equivalent quantities of farm produce minus imputed value of byproducts obtained in processing.

NOTE: Data now published are for a market basket containing average quantities of farm-originated foods purchased per household, including households of single persons living alone. The old market basket was representative of purchases by families only. Thus, quantities of foods of the new market basket are smaller than those in the old.

Quantity of oranges harvested to the end of December was about 31 percent ahead of last year. Grapefruit sizes continue to improve, fruit is firm and droppage has lessened. Movement of grapefruit to fresh market is running slightly behind last season, but is offset by a heavier movement to processors. Tangerine harvest has passed the halfway mark, and picking of tangelos is well past the peak.

Cash Receipts from Farm Marketings, by States, November 1964¹

State	Livestock and Products	Crops	Total
NORTH ATLANTIC REGION <i>1,000 dol.</i>			
Maine.....	10,327	6,645	16,972
New Hampshire.....	3,718	979	4,697
Vermont.....	9,468	848	10,316
Massachusetts.....	8,719	9,891	18,610
Rhode Island.....	1,031	1,112	2,143
Connecticut.....	7,871	12,045	19,916
New York.....	53,630	24,663	78,293
New Jersey.....	10,701	8,403	19,104
Pennsylvania.....	48,683	15,060	63,743
NORTH CENTRAL REGION			
Ohio.....	50,695	46,162	96,857
Indiana.....	55,159	53,415	108,574
Illinois.....	95,302	126,663	221,965
Michigan.....	32,378	41,932	74,310
Wisconsin.....	81,954	14,682	96,636
Minnesota.....	94,477	56,708	151,185
Iowa.....	192,184	96,768	288,952
Missouri.....	74,976	49,799	124,775
North Dakota.....	23,971	31,170	55,141
South Dakota.....	45,801	10,976	56,777
Nebraska.....	80,463	41,231	121,694
Kansas.....	61,063	40,259	101,322
SOUTHERN REGION			
Delaware.....	5,990	4,155	10,145
Maryland.....	15,213	12,245	27,458
Virginia.....	27,111	48,506	75,617
West Virginia.....	7,818	1,843	9,661
North Carolina.....	28,930	149,420	178,350
South Carolina.....	9,302	51,598	60,900
Georgia.....	37,206	33,616	70,822
Florida.....	18,043	51,988	70,031
Kentucky.....	29,278	21,197	50,475
Tennessee.....	24,542	65,283	89,825
Alabama.....	27,494	49,735	77,229
Mississippi.....	25,819	138,525	164,344
Arkansas.....	26,474	151,224	177,698
Louisiana.....	12,453	62,809	75,262
Oklahoma.....	32,087	24,165	56,252
Texas.....	88,578	166,082	254,660
WESTERN REGION			
Montana.....	31,553	21,257	52,810
Idaho.....	14,265	44,934	59,199
Wyoming.....	15,152	8,826	23,978
Colorado.....	43,745	32,722	76,467
New Mexico.....	21,645	20,130	41,775
Arizona.....	16,205	52,957	69,162
Utah.....	14,198	5,244	19,442
Nevada.....	3,275	1,725	5,000
Washington.....	19,008	36,727	55,735
Oregon.....	20,920	20,654	41,574
California.....	120,181	357,681	477,862
UNITED STATES.....	1,779,056	2,324,659	4,103,715
United States, Jan.-Nov.....	18,257,865	14,905,812	33,163,677
Same period, year ago ²	18,340,671	15,159,927	33,500,598

¹All figures represent sales of farm products, plus Commodity Credit loans reported during the month minus Commodity Credit loans repaid during the month. For comparisons of cash receipts with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation. ²Revised.

Cash Receipts From Farming and Index of Volume of Farm Marketings, United States¹

	November 1964	December 1964
CASH RECEIPTS	<i>Mil. dol.</i>	<i>Mil. dol.</i>
Total marketings and CCC loans ²	4,103	3,600
Livestock and products.....	1,779	1,700
Meat animals.....	1,052	
Dairy products.....	409	
Poultry and eggs.....	306	
Other	12	
Crops.....	2,324	1,900
Food grains.....	121	
Feed crops.....	378	
Cotton (lint and seed).....	626	
Oil-bearing crops.....	436	
Tobacco.....	126	
Vegetables	181	
Fruits and tree nuts.....	151	
Other	305	
Government payments	105	
Grand total.....	4,208	
VOLUME OF FARM MARKETINGS:	1957-59 = 100	
All commodities.....	157	137
Livestock and products.....	128	119
Crops.....	196	161

¹For comparison with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation.

²Receipts from loans represent value of loans minus value of redemptions during the month. Details may not add to totals because of rounding.

Avocado Production Low

Production of fall and winter varieties of avocados in California is forecast at 10,500 tons, one-third of last year's crop. Harvest was active during December and about one-half of the crop was picked by January 1. Rains in the avocado producing areas have been beneficial. The first forecast for California's spring and summer avocados will be released April 9, 1965.

Farm Work Slow, Even for December

The number of persons working on farms during the survey week of December 20-26 declined to 4,362,000, the lowest reported in 1964. This is 8 percent under the similar period in 1963 and a record low for this period. Effects of holiday activity and winter slowdown stand out when the December total is compared with the totals for the July and June survey weeks when about 7.5 million persons were doing farm work.

The average number of all farm workers during the 12 monthly survey periods in 1964 declined to a new low of 6,110,000 persons--6 percent below 1963. Farm family workers averaged 4,506,000 persons--5 percent less than in 1963. Hired farm workers averaged 1,604,000 for the 12 periods, a sharp reduction to a new low, 10 percent under 1963.

Wage Rates in 1964 Average 3 Percent above Previous Record

Farm wage rates showed moderate but consistent advances in 1964 as shown by each quarterly wage report. In index terms, the national average of all rates rose 3 percent over 1963. It reached 695 percent of the historic base period 1910-14 and 120 percent of the average for 1957-59.

Wage rates at the beginning of 1965 continued the moderate advance, with composite averages reaching 122 percent of the 1957-59 base, an increase of 5 percent over January 1, 1964.

All rates reported are from the Department's crop and livestock reporters and represent rates paid in their localities or on their own farms. Cash payments only are included.

Reports and publications issued regularly by USDA's Economic Research Service and Statistical Reporting Service are listed in a booklet entitled Agricultural Economics, Checklist of Reports. If you want a free copy, address: OMS, Division of Information, USDA, Washington D.C., 20250.

William T. Schanger, Editor